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27 March 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director, NRO

SUBJECT : Definition of Responsibilities Resulting
from Agreement between Secretary of
Defense and Director of Central Intelligence
on Management of National Reconnaissance
Program

As you know, according to the agreement between the Secretary of Defense and the Director of Central Intelligence on the management of the National Reconnaissance Program, which has now been signed into effect, the Director of the NRO is charged with the assignment of responsibilities, projects and programs to appropriate elements of the DOD and the CIA. The failure in the past to make any definite assignment of responsibilities in the whole NRO area has been, of course, a result of not having a basic agreement. Now that we have this agreement, I consider it a matter of first priority for the DNRO to clarify and assign responsibilities under the National Reconnaissance Program. The directive to move the Control Center for the satellite programs from the Office of Special Activities, CIA, to the NRO Control Center at the Pentagon is, in my opinion, out of order without first defining who is responsible for what. This decision further confuses this problem. While realizing that the new DNRO is still becoming acquainted with his mission and assets, I must respectfully insist that my responsibilities be made known at the earliest possible date.

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JACK C. LEDFORD
Colonel, USAF
Assistant Director
(Special Activities)

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